

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/606,928
Amendment filed March 14, 2006
Reply to OA dated December 19, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 5-13 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claim 2, as follows.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original): An alkaline storage battery comprising nickel cathodes and an alkaline electrolytic solution, wherein at least one species of a compound selected from the group consisting of niobium compound, titanium compound, tungsten compound and molybdenum compound is introduced into the nickel cathodes comprising a cathode active material composed mainly of nickel hydroxide, which surface has a coating layer of a cobalt compound, and the alkaline electrolytic solution contains lithium hydroxide, a lithium hydroxide content being not less than 0.6 mol / L and not more than 1.6 mol / L.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): An alkaline storage battery according to claim 1, wherein the cobalt compound is a cobalt compound containing ~~alkaline cations~~ alkali metal ions.

Claim 3 (Original): An alkaline storage battery according to claim 1, wherein the amount of at least one species of a compound selected from the group consisting of niobium compound, titanium compound, tungsten compound and molybdenum compound to be added is not less than 0.2% by mass and not more than 1.0% by mass in relation to the mass of the cathode active material

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composed mainly of nickel hydroxide, having the coating layer of the cobalt compound.

Claim 4 (Original): An alkaline storage battery according to claim 1, wherein the alkaline electrolytic solution contains sodium hydroxide.

Claims 5-13 (Canceled).